

MARVEL

**LIMITED
SERIES**

3 OF 5

TORRES
NAKATSUKA
GURU eFX

X-MEN: RONIN





X-MEN: RONIN



PART THREE: HELL

Who are the X-Men?

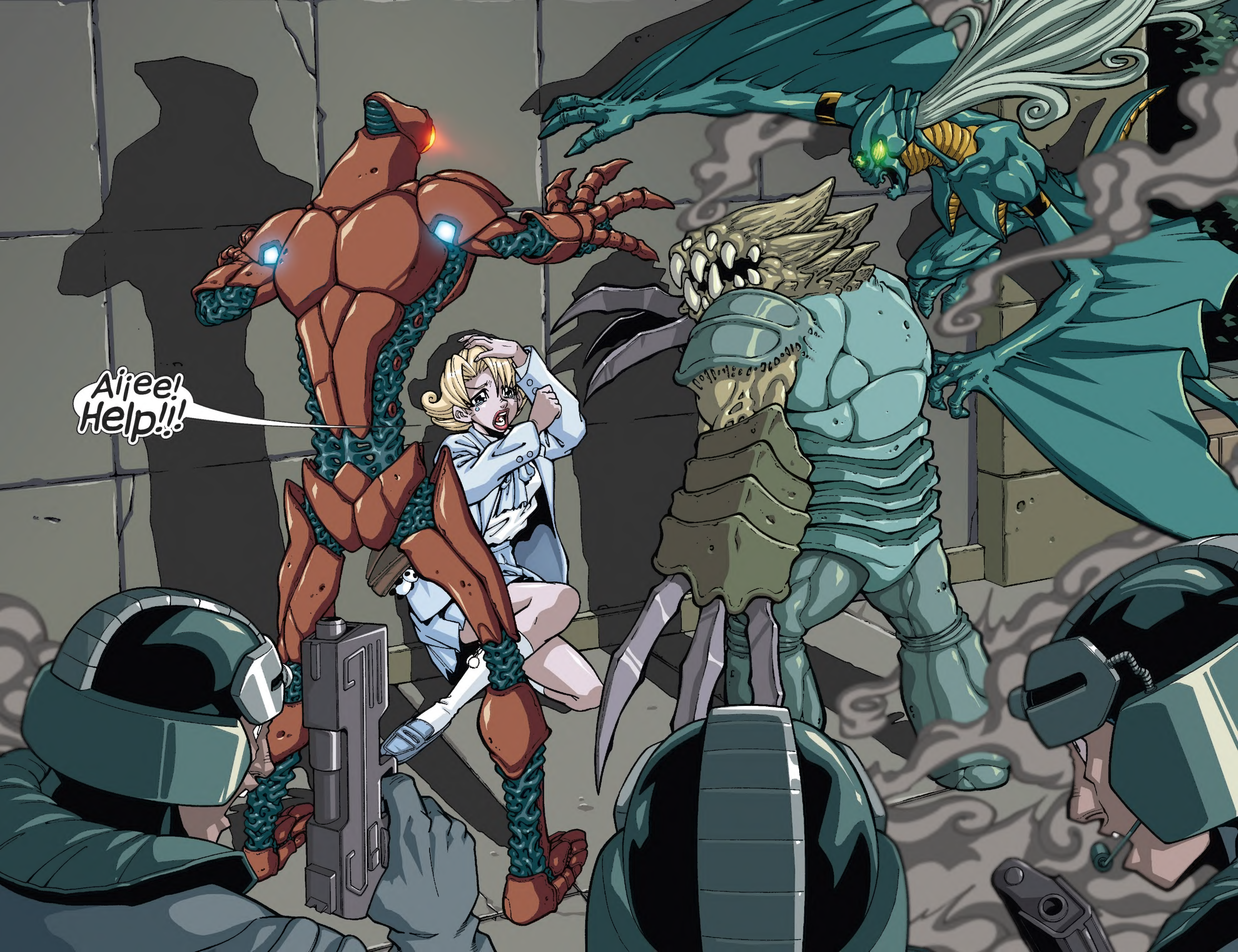
The X-Men are a mutant team dedicated to preserving the peace between mutants and humans, and protecting the world from those mutants who believe their genes make them the rightful inheritors of the Earth! They are... Wolverine (Logan), Samurai Slasher! Cyclops (Scott Summers), One-Eyed Warrior! Storm (Ororo Munroe), Weather Witch! And Marvel Girl (Jean Grey), Sultry Psychic!

Emma Frost, a powerful mutant telepath, is desperate to recruit Jean Grey for the exclusive mutant Hellfire Club so Frost can secure her own promotion in the club's ranks. Frost sends bad-news mutants Iceman, Pyro and Colossus to capture Jean, but the X-Men turn the tables and put them behind bars! The team chases Frost through the city and nearly has her... until she casts an illusion in the minds of arriving police officers that the X-Men are monsters and she an innocent schoolgirl!



Written by **J. TORRES** Illustrated by **MAKOTO NAKATSUKA** Colored by **GURU eFX**
Lettered by **DAVE SHARPE** Assistant Editor **STEPHANIE MOORE** Editor **C.B. CEBULSKI**
Cover by **TOMMY OHTSUKA** and **GURU eFX** Special Thanks to **MITSUKO MITSUOKA**
Editor in Chief **JOE QUESADA** President **BILL JEMAS**

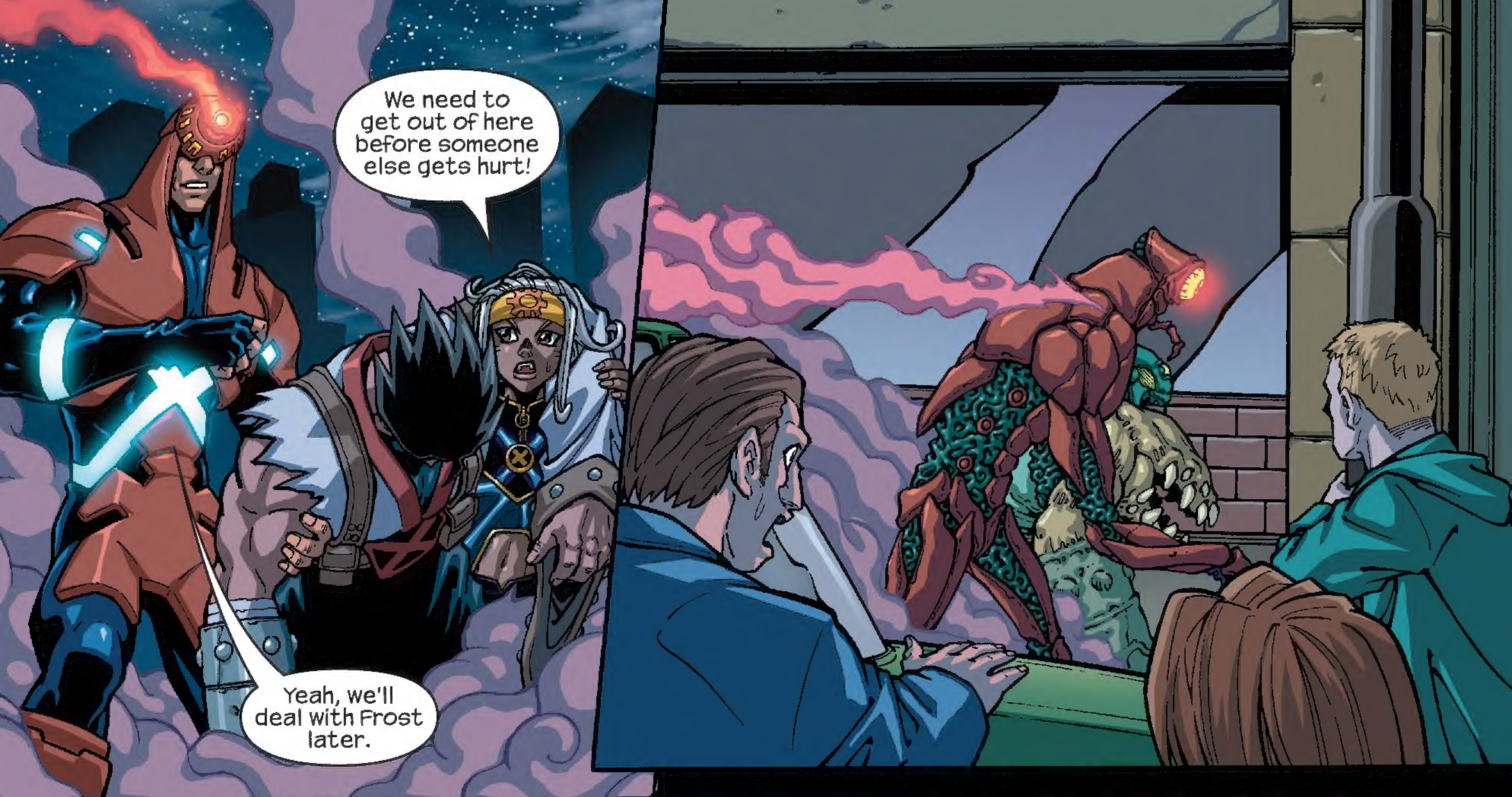
Aiiee!
Help!!!









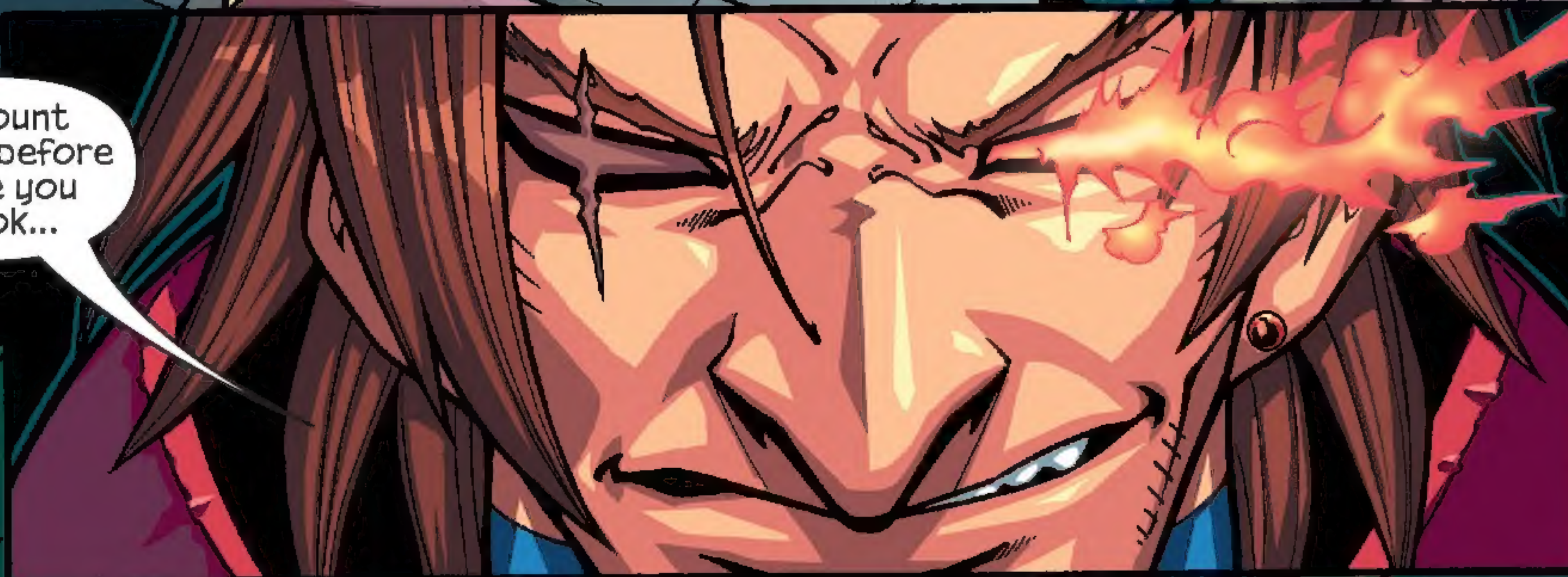








Do any of you know what happens if I open my good eye?



I'll count to five before I give you a look...

Later, in the sewers...



Think they'll follow, Cyclops?

Doubt it.

But we need somewhere to regroup...

What about Master Toad's?



It's been hours since the incident, but you say you haven't heard from your teammates?

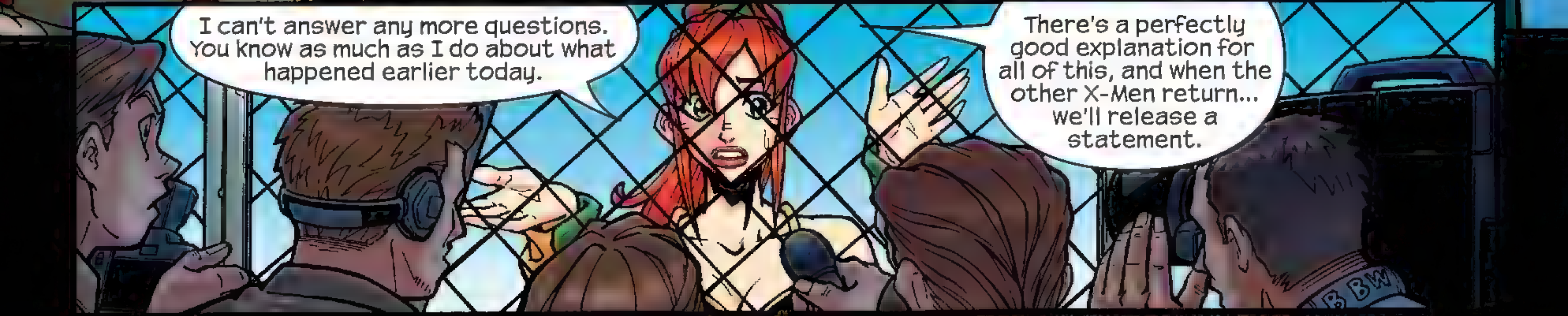
If they can't change shape, then what about the eyewitness reports of monsters--

Perhaps you're unaware of mutations--



I can't answer any more questions. You know as much as I do about what happened earlier today.

There's a perfectly good explanation for all of this, and when the other X-Men return... we'll release a statement.



Please don't jump to any conclusions or spread any more myths about the X-Men or mutants in general.

We're not monsters! We use our powers for good. Mutants do not go on senseless rampages, destroy property and endanger innocent people's lives.



Then care to tell us what happened to your house?



Uh... no comment.



The Hellfire Club



No! You can't do this to me!



Emma, you cost the Shadowcat Clan three of its ninja.

You and your lackeys nearly destroyed a bar owned and operated by a rival syndicate.

And yesterday, a very public and destructive exchange with the X-Men when we're supposed to be infiltrating inconspicuously...



You're becoming quite a liability to our fledgling organization.

But the X-Men came after me! Tell him, Tessa!

I had nothing to do with this!



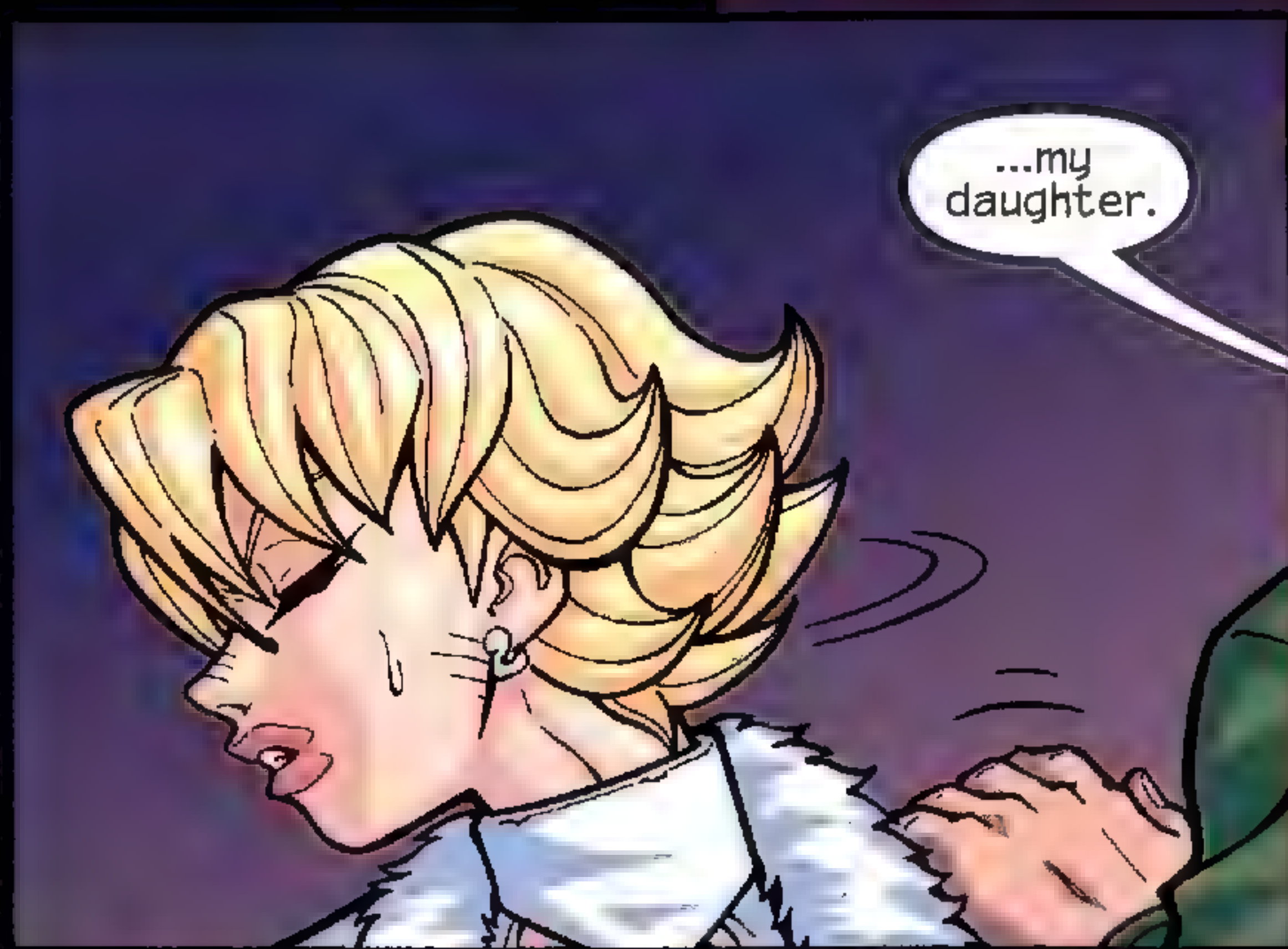


Girls, please...
Lower your voices.
You're upsetting
Cerebra.



Emma, you are
merely being admonished.
This is a temporary suspension,
not an expulsion from the
Hellfire Club.

And although
this perhaps hurts
your chances of being
named White Queen, you
are still and always
will be...



...my
daughter.



She's impatient
and brash... just like
her mother. Has that
nasty temper as
well.

No, father,
that was *my* mother.
Emma's mother was the
quiet one who liked to
write haiku and
fly kites.

The sewers...

Thank you for helping us out yet again, Master Toad.

As always, fair Ororo, it is my privilege and pleasure to assist you uncanny X-Men.

We are still a masterless clan. Won't you reconsider joining us "above"? Times have changed.

Then why are you hiding down here, Scott?

Classic misunderstanding scenario, Toad-sensei. We'll get it cleared up as soon as you're done patching up Logan.

I have done all I can. And even with his accelerated healing abilities, we can only wait and see...

Then may we leave him in your care?

Yeah, we have to figure out what happened up there, talk to the police, and try to clear the air.



Who do we go to first? Shiro Yoshida, our so-called chief of police...

Or should we try and track down Frost for some answers? And what about...



Jean!



Tell me you've devised some means of contacting the outside world since we were here last, Toad-sensei...



You check on Jean!

I'm going to speak to someone who may be able to help us.



Hurry up, Logan-san. Your "masterless clan" needs you...

They need to
be stopped! The X-Men
operate outside the law!
That makes them
vigilantes!

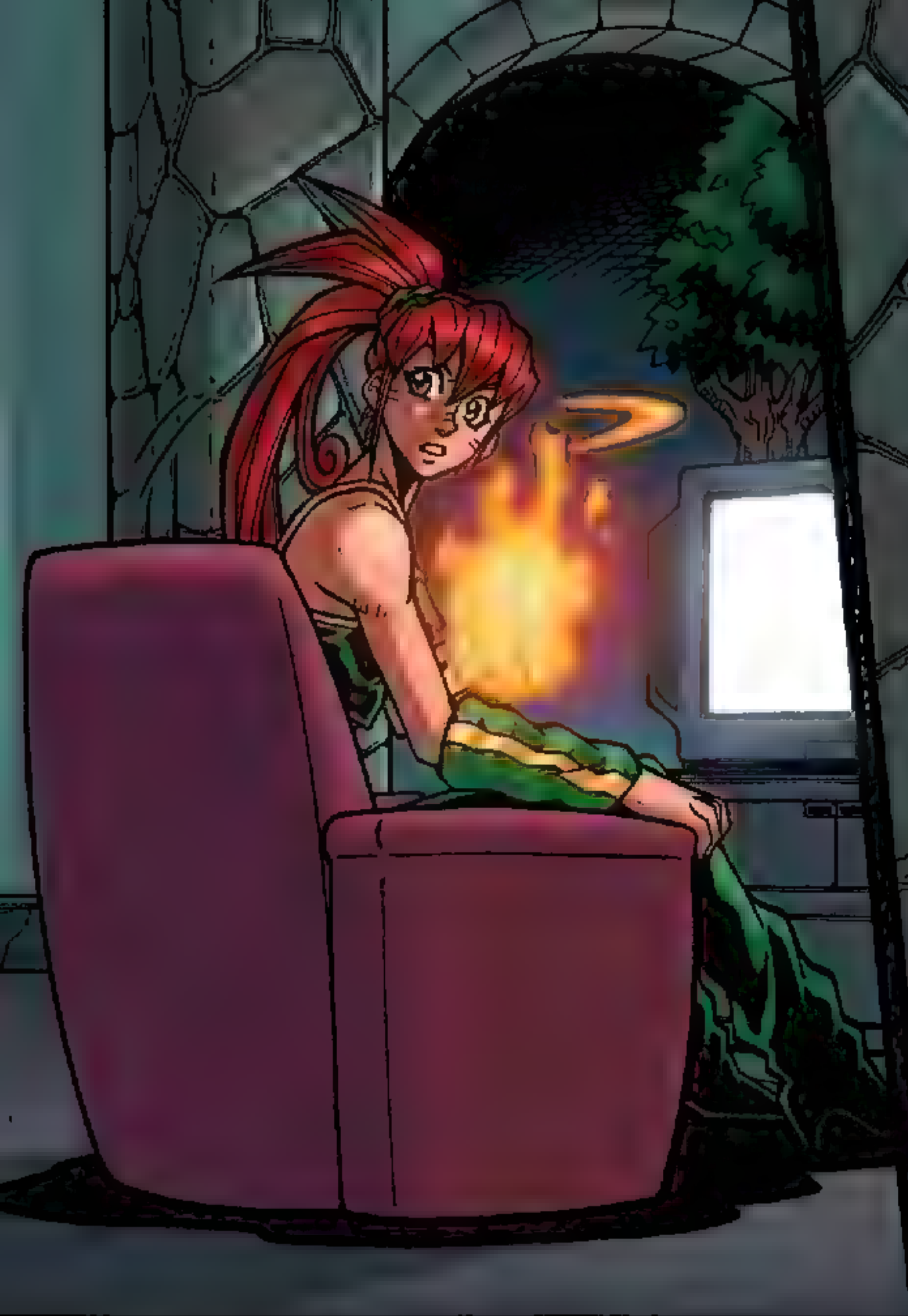
...NEWSFLASH...
...NEWSFLASH...

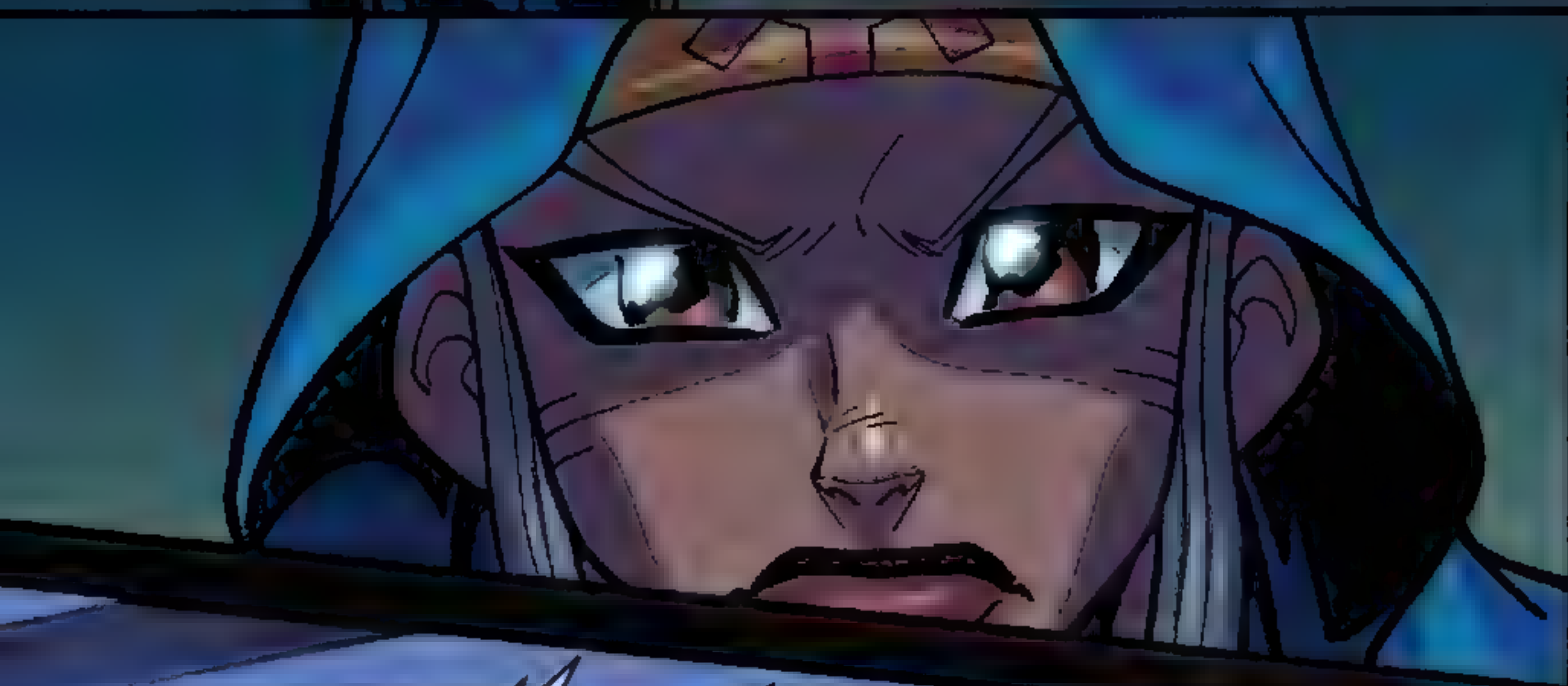
Yoshida-san,
what of reports that
the police are preparing
special measures in the
event that--

The X-Men are
outlaws who answer
to no one and
that makes them
dangerous!

...NEWSFLASH... X-MEN AT LARGE...
MUTANT MENACES WANTED BY AUTHORITIES...
THREAT TO PUBLIC... NEWSFLASH...









Chief Yoshida only wants to protect us. To keep the criminal mutant element in check. Make the streets safer for everyone.



Speaking of criminal mutants...



It's okay... I know who you are, Ororo.

Y-you do?

Yes.



Just turn yourself in. Running only makes matters worse. The X-Men have done some good, but by operating outside the law...

It doesn't help that you injured several police officers--

They shot at us first!

Witnesses say you were threatening a little girl.



Little girl?
We were after a
woman named Frost.
A telepath who sent
ninja to--



That's it!
A telepath...
She brainwashed
those mutants
to attack us...
and made people
see us as
monsters!



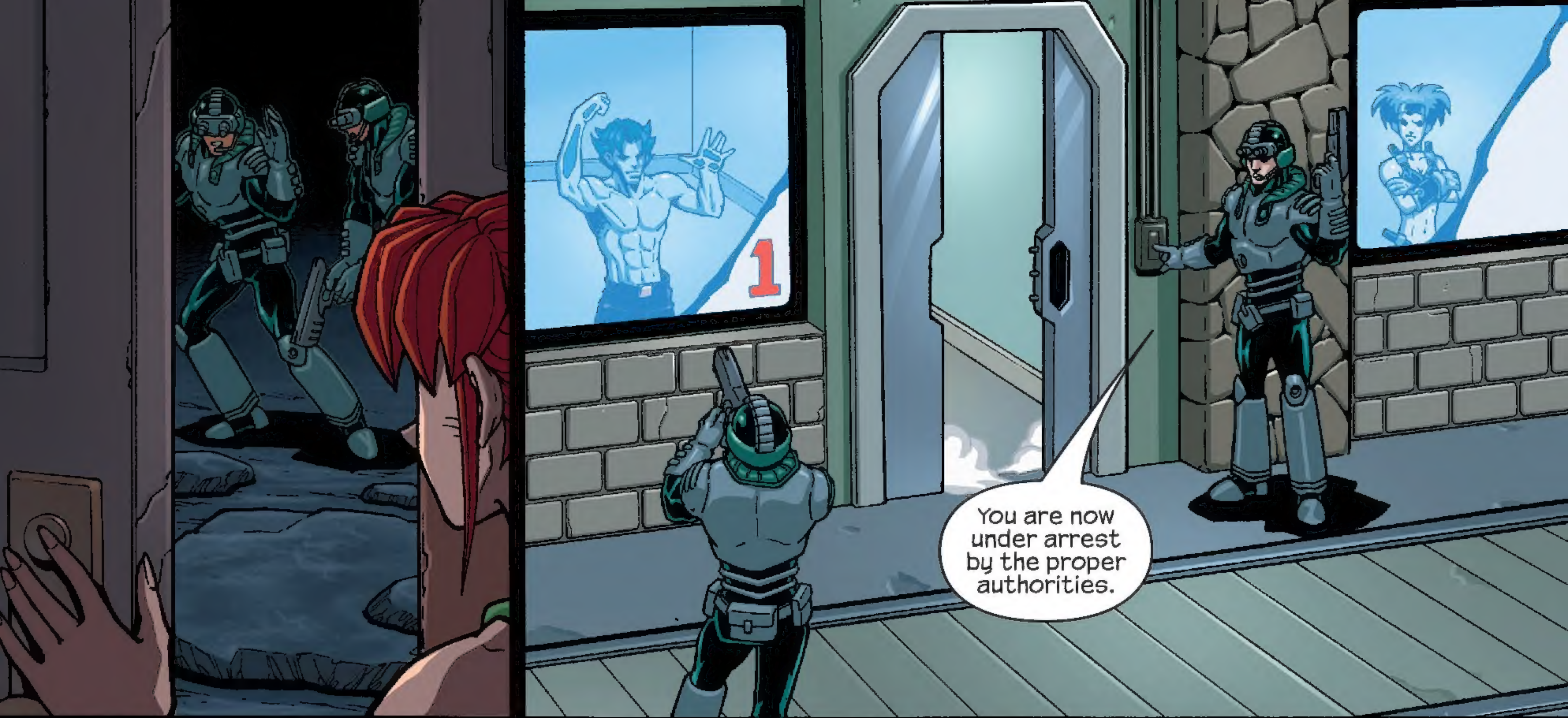
Ororo...
come back with
me to the station
and explain it
there.

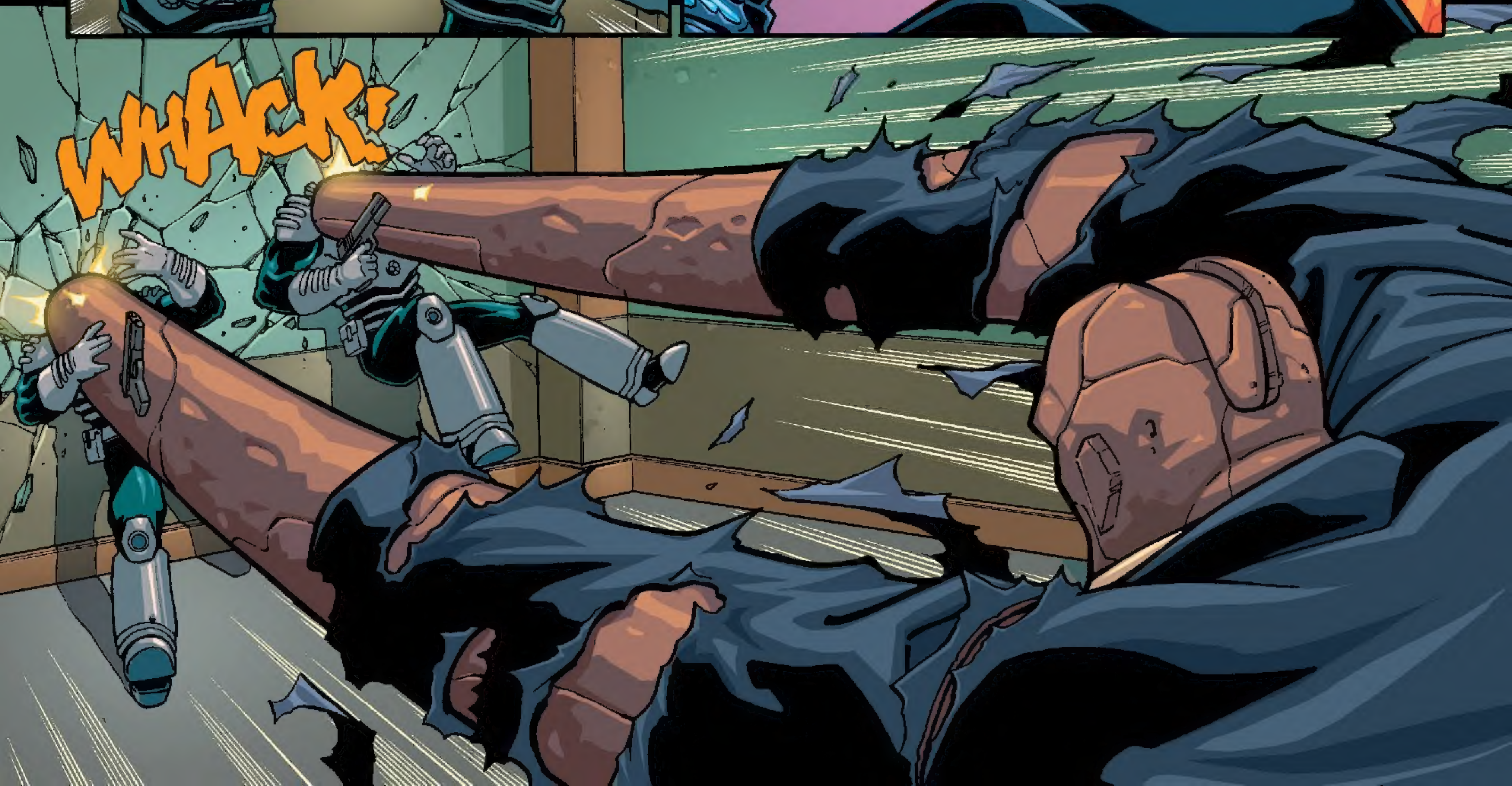
Your friends
are already being
rounded up.



My
friends are
what?











Jean!

**TO BE
CONTINUED!**